(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) The Final Location Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey for quadrupling the track between Borivali and Virar (34 km) has been completed. The Survey Report will be examined and decision taken on merits.

Rail communication between India and Pakistan

479. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement has recently been signed between India and Pakistan to extend Rail communication between the two countries; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 'The Agreement relating to Rail Communication between India and Pakistan—1991' has been extended for a further period of 3 years upto 7-7-94. This Agreement provides for continued running of the daily passenger train between Amritsar and Lahore for the journey of the international passengers and regular exchange of freight traffic between the two countries.

Completion of the Konkan Railway line

480. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the original budget and original time schedule for completion of the Konkan Railway line;

(b) what is the revised budget and time schedule; and

(c) what steps Government propose to complete this important project on schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) The project was originally expected to cost Rs. 1043 crores at the 1989-90 price level and the time schedule for completion was 4 years viz. October, 1994.

(b) The project is being executed by an autonomous body viz. Konkan Railway Corporation who envisage no change in the time schedule at present nor in the project cost, except for normal escalation due to inflation.

(c) The Government is monitoring the progress and providing Konkan Railway Corporation the necessary assistance for timely completion of the project.

Conversion of Manmad-Aurangabad-Adilabad railway line

481. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) when the work of conversion of Manmad-Aurangabad-Adilabad railway line was undertaken;

(b) by when the work is likely to be completed; and

(c) the reasons for delay, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Two works of conversion of Metre Gauge line to Broad Gauge have been sanctioned in the Marathwada region; (1) Manmad--Parbhani-Parli Vaijnath; and (2) Parbhani-Purna and Mudkhed-Adilabad and parallel BG line between Purna and Mudkhed. These works were taken up in the year 1978-79 and 1984-85 respectively.